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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

**LISTING OF DISCLOSURE AMENDMENTS**

Please amend the paragraph that begins on page 6, line 23 and ends on page 7, line 4 of the specification as follows:

~~Certain drawbacks are associated with the method of Martin et al. The method coupled the BER measurement to the Signal Degradation Algorithm used by the tributary protection system, which provides a long integration/detection time for low bit error rates. The integration time allowed for detection of an incoming BER is of an order of minutes according to Bellcore GR-253-CORE. This delay in measurement and error transfer propagates to the downstream tributary sites and could effectively double the BER detection time at those sites.~~

Please amend the paragraph that begins on page 7, line 5 and ends on page 7, line 12 of the specification as follows:

The delay in error propagation also affects the time at which the bit error information is reported by the downstream site's Performance Monitoring (PM) system. ~~In a worst case, single~~ Single bit errors that may be reported by a ~~an~~ OC-192 T-Mux ~~are~~ may never be propagated to a downstream OC-48 site. ~~Thus Martin et al. fail to teach a method of~~ it is therefore desirable to provide signal degradation propagation that is both timely and necessarily reflective of measured error rates.

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